

LIBRARY  
OF CONGRESS

GERSHWIN PRIZE  
FOR POPULAR  
SONG

CELEBRATING  
THE MUSIC OF

GARTH  
BROOKS

4 MAR  
2020

DAR Constitution Hall  
Washington, DC





A



B

A The George and Ira Gershwin Room

B Ira Gershwin's typewriter and typing table, electric pencil sharpener and a caviar tin for holding paper clips.

The Gershwin Room is a permanent tribute to the creative legacy of the celebrated song-writing team, George and Ira Gershwin.

The exhibit features a changing selection of items from the Gershwin Collection—autograph manuscripts and lyrics sheets, sheet music, correspondence, programs, and photographs. Also on view are a self-portrait oil painting of each brother, George's piano and custom-made desk, Ira's typewriter and typing table, and other artifacts from their creative careers. On permanent display is the Congressional Gold Medal produced by the U.S. Mint awarded posthumously in 1985 for their “outstanding and invaluable contributions to American music, theatre and culture.” The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song medal is adapted from the Gershwin Congressional Gold Medal.

To a great extent the Gershwin Room celebrates all of the forward-thinking and generous individuals who have supported the establishment and growth of the Gershwin Collection in the Library of Congress.

In the Library's Gershwin Room, and in the hearts of music lovers throughout the world, the legacy of George and Ira Gershwin remains, in words taken from the last song that they wrote together, very much “Here to Stay.”

# CARLA HAYDEN



Shawn Miller

Thank you for joining us this evening to honor Garth Brooks, the 2020 recipient of the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song.

Ever since this record-breaking country music phenomenon skyrocketed to stardom in the 1980s with hits such as “Much Too Young (To Feel This Damn Old),” “If Tomorrow Never Comes,” and “The Dance,” he has been recording, performing, touring, and giving his all to sold-out audiences worldwide. He is among the most decorated and best-selling performing artists ever, and the only one to have eight diamond-certified albums and seven Country Music Association Entertainer of the Year Awards. But even beyond his popularity, prolific creativity and limitless energy, Brooks has attained a musical stature worthy of association with that legendary song-writing team, George and Ira Gershwin.

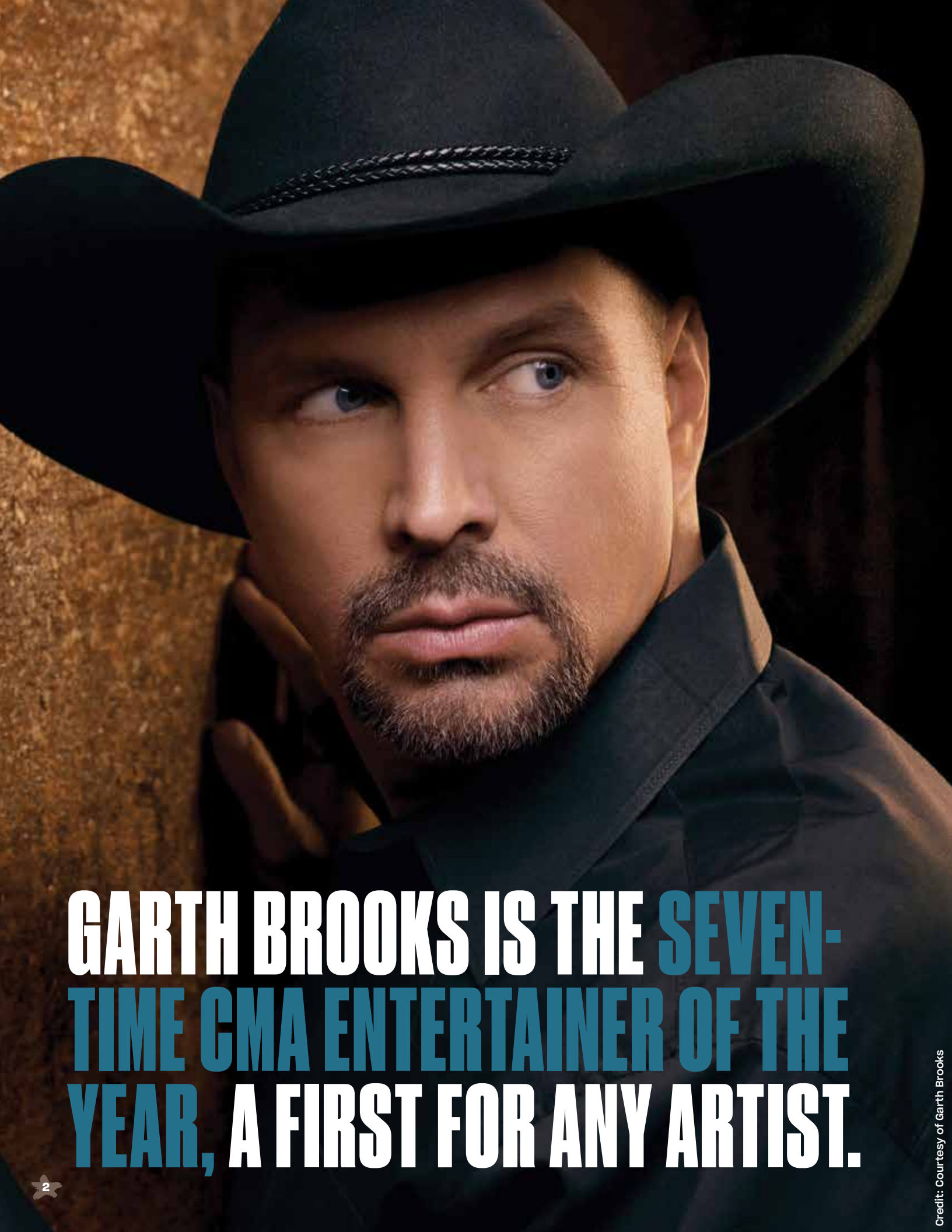
The Gershwin Prize was established to recognize artists whose creative output transcends musical categories, brings diverse listeners together, and fosters mutual understanding and appreciation across cultural borders. This has always been job No. 1 for Garth Brooks, as evidenced by the diversity, enthusiasm, and loyalty of his millions of fans around the world.

It is with deep pleasure that we join together in celebrating this musical icon and American national treasure—Garth Brooks.

*Carla Hayden*

Carla Hayden,  
Librarian of Congress





GARTH BROOKS IS THE SEVEN-TIME CMA ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR, A FIRST FOR ANY ARTIST.

Credit: courtesy of Garth Brooks

GARTH BROOKS

AWARDS AT A GLANCE

14 CMA AWARDS, INCLUDING 7 ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

22 ACM AWARDS, INCLUDING 6 ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR AWARDS

5 BLOCKBUSTER AWARDS

19 BILLBOARD AWARDS

17 AMA AWARDS

2 GRAMMY AWARDS

28 ASCAP AWARDS

1 GLAAD AWARD

8 RIAA DIAMOND AWARDS

1 NAACP IMAGE AWARD

12 PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARDS

1ST IHEART RADIO MUSIC AWARD FOR ARTIST OF THE DECADE

2011

Induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame

2012

Induction into the Country Music Hall of Fame

2016

Induction into the Musicians Hall of Fame

2011

Induction into the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame

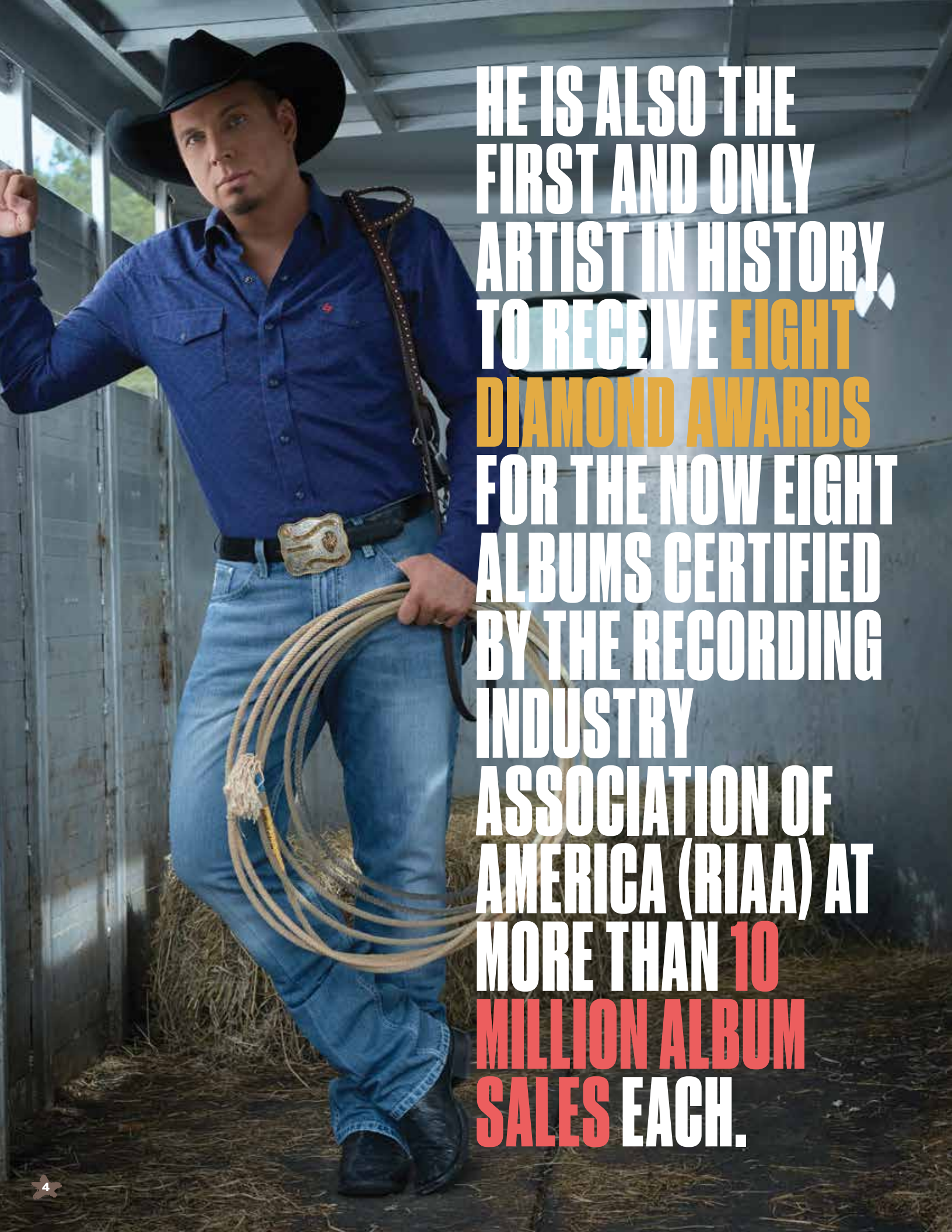
2015

Induction into the Music City Walk of Fame

2020

Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song





HE IS ALSO THE  
FIRST AND ONLY  
ARTIST IN HISTORY  
TO RECEIVE **EIGHT**  
**DIAMOND AWARDS**  
FOR THE NOW EIGHT  
ALBUMS CERTIFIED  
BY THE RECORDING  
INDUSTRY  
ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA (RIAA) AT  
MORE THAN **10**  
**MILLION ALBUM**  
**SALES EACH.**



Garth Brooks remains the No. 1-selling solo artist in U.S. history, certified by the RIAA with 156 million album sales.

He has received every accolade the recording industry can bestow on an artist, including being inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in New York, the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, the Country Music Hall of Fame, the Musicians Hall of Fame, and the Grand Ole Opry. In March 2019, Garth received iHeartRadio's inaugural Artist of the Decade Award at the iHeartRadio Awards in Los Angeles. In December 2019, A&E created Garth Week, which included a four-hour, two-part, two-night event, A&E Biography titled, "Garth Brooks: The Road I'm On." It contained never-before-seen glimpses into the singer's entire life and career to date.

In January, *Billboard* announced that Garth Brooks was the first artist to make it on the *Billboard* Hot Country Songs chart in the '80s, '90s, '00s, '10s and now '20s. Garth debuted the song "Much Too Young (To Feel This Damn Old)" in 1989. Now, with "Dive Bar," a duet he sang with Blake Shelton, he makes his appearance on the list in 2020. Additionally, *Pollstar* announced at the end of last year that The Garth Brooks Stadium Tour was the best-selling country music tour of 2019.

The day of its debut on country radio, "Dive Bar" was the most added song with 135 total stations. It was recorded for Garth's upcoming studio album, *Fun*. The single inspired a seven-date DIVE BAR tour to dive bars in country music capitals around the country, which Garth has played in between stops on The Stadium Tour. The DIVE BAR tour has continued its run of stops into 2020.

Garth has also now gone vinyl with his meticulously-curated vinyl package, *LEGACY*. This career-defining collection includes three different boxed sets: Limited Edition, Original Analog Edition and Digitally Remixed/Remastered Edition. Each edition features five hit albums including *No Fences*, *The Chase*, *In Pieces*, *Fresh*



*Horses* and *Triple Live*, plus CDs with bonus tracks for a total of seven vinyl albums and seven CDs in each edition.

During the first pre-sale, Garth smashed records with 20,000 packages sold in under 18 hours, totaling 420,000 vinyl records. *Forbes* noted, "To put this in context, The Beatles were the number-one vinyl artist in 2018 with 321,000 sales over 12 months."

In March 2019, Garth launched The Stadium Tour, which has broken stadium attendance records in St. Louis at The Dome at America's Center; Glendale, AZ, at State Farm Stadium; Gainesville, FL, at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium; two sold-out nights at Minneapolis's U.S. Bank Stadium; Denver at Mile High Stadium; Eugene, OR, at Autzen Stadium; and two sold-out nights at Albertsons Stadium in Boise, ID. Garth's show in Knoxville, TN, at Neyland Stadium hosted the largest attendance in Neyland Stadium and Tennessee history for a single-concert event. Garth also set the record for the largest concert crowd in Ford Field history, selling out in 90 minutes with more



than 70,000 tickets sold. In 2019, Garth Brooks' The Stadium Tour averaged just over 83,000 tickets in each city and more than 914,000 tickets sold to date.

In October 2018, Garth sold out the first ever concert at Notre Dame Stadium. The concert was filmed for a CBS Television special, GARTH:

LIVE AT NOTRE DAME! viewed by nearly 14 million people.

In 2017, Garth finished the three-and-a-half-year-long Garth Brooks World Tour with Trisha Yearwood.

# FORBES PROCLAIMED, “GARTH BROOKS’ WORLD TOUR SOLIDIFIES HIS STATUS AS THE BEST ARENA ACT ALIVE.”

The tour smashed records previously held by such acts as The Beatles, The Rolling Stones, and even Garth himself. The tour played 79 cities and 390 concerts, with more than 100,000 tickets sold in over 20 cities.

The tour sold more than 6.3 million tickets, making it the biggest North American tour in history and the biggest American tour in the world.

In 1999, Garth Brooks' Teammates for Kids was founded. They partner with professional athletes, corporations, foundations, celebrities and individual teammates, to help children in the areas of health, education and inner city. Garth also builds houses with Habitat for Humanity, which is dedicated to building decent, affordable homes for families in need.

## Inside Studio G

Garth's weekly **Facebook Live series**, airs every Monday at 7:00 PM EST.



@GarthBrooks







Garth Brooks, on stage performing with young band Mark Tate, Ty England, Paul Compton, and Dale Pierce



Garth Brooks, Allen Reynolds and Mark Miller in studio at the sound board - Credit: Tami Rose Thompson



Photo Credit: Henry Diltz



Country Music Hall of Fame inductee, Garth Brooks with award presenter George Strait - Credit: Peyton Hoge

THE <b>Billboard</b> 200™					TOP ALBUMS FOR WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 28, 1991	
THIS WEEK	LAST WEEK	WEEKS ON CHART	ARTIST	TITLE	PEAK POSITION	
1	NEW	1	<b>GARTH BROOKS</b> CAPITOL NASHVILLE	ROPIN' THE WIND	1	
2	1	5	METALLICA	METALLICA	1	
3	2	14	NATASHA	UNFORGETTABLE	1	
4	5	8	COLE	G.M.B.	3	
5	4	3	BOB DYLAN	LUCK OF THE DRAW	2	
6	6	5	BOB DYLAN	COOLEYHIGHARMONY	3	
7	10		FACTORY COLUMBIA	GONNA MAKE YOU SWEAT	2	
8			TON COLUMBIA	TIME, LOVE AND TENDERNESS	1	
9			OS.	OUT OF TIME	1	
				ROLL THE BONES	3	

Garth Brooks in 1991



1989

Garth Brooks



1990

No Fences



1991

Ropin' the Wind



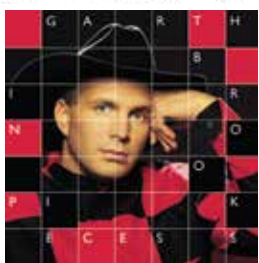
1992

Beyond the Season



1992

The Chase



1993

In Pieces



1994

The Hits



1995

Fresh Horses



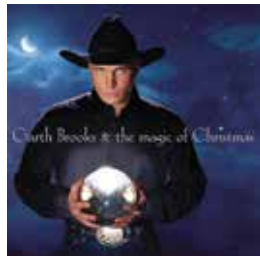
1997

Sevens



1998

Double Live



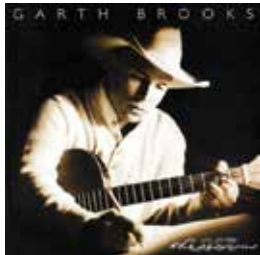
1999

The Magic of Christmas



2001

Scarecrow



2005

The Lost Sessions



2014

Man Against Machine



2016

Christmas Together



2016

Gunslinger



2018

Triple Live



2020

Fun



1989

- #1 "If Tomorrow Never Comes"
- #8 "Much Too Young (To Feel This Damn Old)"

1990

- #1 "The Dance"
- #1 "Friends in Low Places"
- #1 "Unanswered Prayers"
- #2 "Not Counting You"

1991

- #1 "Two of a Kind, Workin' on a Full House"
- #1 "The Thunder Rolls"
- #1 "Shameless"
- #1 "What She's Doing Now"
- #3 "Rodeo"

1992

- #1 "The River"
- #1 "Somewhere Other Than the Night"
- #3 "Papa Loved Mama"
- #12 "We Shall Be Free"

1993

- #1 "That Summer"
- #1 "Ain't Goin' Down ('Til the Sun Comes Up)"
- #1 "American Honky-Tonk Bar Association"
- #2 "Learning to Live Again"
- #3 "Standing Outside the Fire"

1994

- #2 "Callin' Baton Rouge"
- #7 "One Night a Day"

1995

- #1 "She's Every Woman"
- #1 "The Beaches of Cheyenne"

1996

- #4 "That Ol' Wind"
- #5 "It's Midnight Cinderella"
- #19 "The Change"

1997

- #1 "Longneck Bottle"

1998

- #1 "Two Piña Coladas"
- #1 "To Make You Feel My Love"
- #2 "She's Gonna Make It"

- #3 "You Move Me"
- #9 "It's Your Song"

2000

- #7 "Do What You Gotta Do"
- #13 "Wild Horses"
- #21 "When You Come Back to Me Again"

2001

- #5 "Wrapped Up in You"

2002

- #16 "Squeeze Me In" (with Trisha Yearwood)
- #18 "Thicker Than Blood"

2005

- #3 "Good Ride Cowboy"

2007

- #1 "More Than a Memory"

2008

- #19 "Workin' for a Livin'" (with Huey Lewis)

2017

- #1 "Ask Me How I Know"

2020

- #5 "Dive Bar" (with Blake Shelton)





# LEE BRICE

Courtesy of Lee Brice

When Lee Brice isn't selling out arenas, writing and recording songs, or building new brands like American Born whiskey, you'll find the family man with his wife Sara, two young boys, and baby daughter.

Meanwhile, with more than 1.8 billion on-demand streams, and 3 billion spins on Pandora, Brice continues to enjoy massive success at country radio, digital streaming services, and on the road. One of the most-played country artists of all time on Pandora, he is a member of the company's "Billionaires Club," becoming only the second country artist behind Keith Urban to receive the Pandora Billionaire plaque. Brice is also a GRAMMY nominee, a CMA nominee and a double ACM award winner, and he's taken six radio singles to No. 1: "A Woman Like You," "Hard to Love," "I Drive Your Truck," "I Don't Dance," "Drinking Class," and "Rumor." Garth Brooks, Jason Aldean, Kenny Chesney and others have recorded his songs, and he has performed on numerous TV shows, including NBC's *Today*, ABC's *The Bachelor*, NBC's *The Voice* and FOX's *Miss USA 2018*. Brice—who is currently Top 15 at Country Radio with Carly Pearce on "I Hope You're Happy Now"—is following the massive success of his hit "Rumor" with the announcement of his new radio single, "One of Them Girls," available March 6, 2020.



# MARGARET GEORGE

Alison Kaufman

Margaret George is the *New York Times* best-selling author of novels of biographical historical fiction, including *Elizabeth I*; *Helen of Troy*; *Mary, Called Magdalene*; *The Memoirs of Cleopatra*; *Mary Queen of Scotland and the Isles*; and *The Autobiography of Henry VIII*. She also has co-written a children's book, *Lucille Lost*. Most recently she published a two-book series about the ancient Roman emperor Nero: *The Confessions of Young Nero* and *The Splendor Before the Dark*. These works were the culmination of more than 30 years of Nero fascination and research.

## ★ ★ ★ HOWARD UNIVERSITY CHOIR

### Soprano

Ansley Benton  
Nailah Downing  
Deyzha Gonzales  
Zaria Jackson  
Kayla Lennon  
Rainaflore Louis  
Brittney Meadors  
Darley Senat

### Alto

Victoria Graham  
Jordan Jones  
Mireya Jones  
Zian Lane  
Imani Shell  
Jasmyn Tilford  
Ashley Watson

### Tenor

William Jones  
Jaucquir LaFond  
Michael Lockhart  
Myles Raynor  
Nathaniel Sizemore

### Bass

Isaiah Holloway  
Xavier Luellen  
Jared Rodriques  
André Vincent  
Maurice Wade



# JAY LENO

2018 NBCUniversal Media, LLC

Acclaimed TV late night show host, admired stand-up comedian, best-selling children's book author, TV and movie voice-over artist, pioneering car builder and mechanic, and philanthropist...Jay Leno is widely characterized as "the hardest working man in show business."

Leno's domination of late night television ratings included two decades as the host of the No. 1-rated *The Tonight Show with Jay Leno*; he never lost a ratings year in which he served as host.

Leno currently produces and is host of the CNBC Television series *Jay Leno's Garage*, which explores the world of cars and never forgets that it's the people behind the wheel who provide the real stories. The series debuted in October 2015 and delivered CNBC's most-watched first season in network history. New episodes can be viewed on CNBC throughout the year.

When he's not on TV, Leno performs more than 100 stand-up shows annually across the country and internationally, participates in numerous charity events, does voice-overs for animated series, pens children's books, and writes a monthly column for *Popular Mechanics*. In his "spare" time (as if he has any), he enjoys working on his collection of classic cars and motorcycles. In fact, he has built a number of cars, including an acclaimed eco-car in his eco-friendly green garage.

Leno is the recipient of Emmy, People's Choice, and TV Guide awards, Harris Poll's selection as most popular star on television, the Hasty Pudding Award at Harvard University, a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame, and being the first person to drive the pace car of all major NASCAR events.

Leno and his wife Mavis, an ardent human rights activist, live in Los Angeles.



# KEB' MO'

Courtesy of Keb' Mo'

Keb' Mo's self-titled release under his coined Keb' Mo' moniker reached its quarter century milestone in 2019, and over the years, Keb' has proven that he is a musical force that defies typical genre labels.

With his 14 albums, he has garnered five GRAMMY awards, including his most recent 2019 release, *Oklahoma*, which won in the Best Americana Album category. Keb's list of GRAMMY recognitions continues with 12 GRAMMY nominations in total, including his 2014 self-produced release, *BLUESAmericana*, earning three nominations on its own as well as a producer/engineer/artist GRAMMY Certificate for his track on the 2001 Country Album of the Year, Hank Williams Tribute - *Timeless*. The talented artist has also been awarded 14 Blues Foundation Awards and six BMI Awards for his work in TV and film.

In 2017, Keb' Mo' released *TajMo*, a collaborative album with the legendary Taj Mahal. The project, which won the 2018 GRAMMY for Best Contemporary Blues Album, features guest appearances by Sheila E., Joe Walsh, Lizz Wright and Bonnie Raitt. At the 39th Annual Blues Music Awards, Keb' Mo', alongside Blues Hall of Famer Taj Mahal, was awarded Album of the Year and Contemporary Blues Album of the Year for their first-ever collaboration project, *TajMo*. Keb' also took home the title of Contemporary Blues Male Artist of the Year.





# RICKY SKAGGS

Courtesy of Ricky Skaggs

Fifteen-time GRAMMY Award winner Ricky Skaggs is affectionately known as one of bluegrass music's most recognized ambassadors.

From his beginnings in bluegrass, he went on to put his own stamp on the mainstream country format, resulting in 12 No. 1 hits, eight Country Music Association Awards (including Entertainer of the Year) and a total of nine Academy of Country Music Awards. The mandolin master became a member of the Grand Ole Opry in 1982, the youngest person to be inducted at that time. 1997 marked Skaggs' triumphant return to bluegrass and the establishment of his own Skaggs Family Records label, which has gone on to break new sales records in the genre. In 2018, he garnered three more Hall of Fame inductions, including IBMA's Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame and country music's greatest honor, the Country Music Hall of Fame, for a total of six hall of fame inductions in his lifetime. With a career spanning over 50 years in music, he continues to record and tour with his band Kentucky Thunder as one of music's most sought after live performers.



# CHRIS STAPLETON

Courtesy of Chris Stapleton

Kentucky-born Chris Stapleton is a multiple GRAMMY, CMA and ACM Award-winner and one of the country's most respected and beloved musicians.

Following his quadruple platinum breakthrough solo debut album *Traveller*, Stapleton released two No. 1 albums in 2017. Both *From A Room: Volume 1* (certified platinum) and *From A Room: Volume 2* (certified gold) take their name from legendary RCA Studio A, where they were recorded with GRAMMY Award-winning producer Dave Cobb. Released to overwhelming critical acclaim, *The Tennessean* praised, "Both are rich with the textures of Stapleton's vocals that make him one of country music's most beloved artists, with classic country sounds and thoughtful articulate lyrics about love, life and pain." He was recently announced as the first-ever "Artist-Songwriter of the Decade" recipient by the Academy of Country Music and, in June, will be the subject of a new exhibit at the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum. Most recently, Stapleton recorded the Randy Newman-penned song, "Ballad of the Lonesome Cowboy," for the *Toy Story 4* soundtrack and has collaborated on songs with P!nk, Ed Sheeran, Bruno Mars and Sheryl Crow. Stapleton has just confirmed his extensive 2020 All-American Road Show tour, including "A Concert for Kentucky"—a special performance benefitting his newly created Outlaw State of Kind Hometown Fund. To be held at the University of Kentucky's Kroger Field in Lexington, KY on April 25, the stadium show will also feature very special guests Willie Nelson & Family, Sheryl Crow and Yola.



# KEITH URBAN

Mark Seliger

2020 is set to be a groundbreaking year of music for four-time GRAMMY Award winner Keith Urban.

February 27 marked the release of a brand new song for North American radio, "God Whispered Your Name," and on March 20 he will add a single for Australian and European radio (available for stream-only in the United States), "Polaroid." Three distinctive shows, each with its own production and set list, will highlight the year on the stage for Urban, including fairs and festivals this summer, 14 concert events in Las Vegas' prestigious Caesar's Palace and a European tour this May.

In 2019 Urban earned the ACM Entertainer of the Year Award. He officially wrapped a nearly two-year stretch that began with the No. 1 simultaneous debut (U.S., Canada and Australia) of his ninth studio album, *Graffiti U*, and concluded his critically acclaimed GRAFFITI U WORLD TOUR, which played to more than a million fans in seven countries on three continents.

Besides four GRAMMY Awards, Urban has won 13 Country Music Association Awards including Entertainer of the Year, 15 Academy of Country Music Awards, four People's Choice Awards and four American Music Awards. He is also a member of the Grand Ole Opry.



# TRISHA YEARWOOD

Courtesy of Trisha Yearwood

Following three decades in the spotlight, numerous GRAMMY, CMA and ACM Awards to her name, countless multiplatinum certifications, and millions of fans entertained, the same passion still motivates and moves Trisha Yearwood.

The singer, actress, author, chef, personality, and entrepreneur derives deep fulfillment from simply walking up to a microphone and pouring her heart out by way of a celebrated powerhouse voice. In 2019, she continued that tradition with her first solo full-length album since 2007, a collection of Frank Sinatra covers and one original entitled "Let's Be Frank." On June 6, Trisha unveiled her highly anticipated new single, "Every Girl in This Town," setting the stage for the 2019 release of her first full-length country record in over a decade, *Every Girl*, and nationwide tour. The first single achieved the highest debut and biggest add day of her career.

At the same time, Trisha remains a timeless entertainer whose influence permeates multiple facets of culture. Beyond 12 studio albums, she hosts the Emmy Award-winning Food Network hit *Trisha's Southern Kitchen* and her Facebook Live "pre-show," *T's Coffee Talk*. At the forefront of a veritable lifestyle empire, she penned three *New York Times* best-selling cookbooks and has designed cookware, furniture, home accessories, and area rugs. Trisha has also collaborated with Williams Sonoma on her signature best-selling cocktail mixes like "Summer in a Cup," "Autumn in a Cup," and "Christmas in a Cup" as well as a variety of food products ranging from a signature biscuit mix to a complete Thanksgiving Dinner.



## Corporation for Public Broadcasting

### Proud sponsor of the Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) is pleased to join the Library of Congress to celebrate the work of the legendary Garth Brooks whose music has enhanced the lives of Americans and people worldwide.

CPB is a nonprofit corporation funded by the American people through Congress. We are proud to serve as the steward of the continuing public investment in the content, services and infrastructure of public media.

CPB provides essential support for PBS, NPR, American Public Media, Public Radio International and nearly 1,500 locally

owned and operated public radio and television stations across the country. Public media—on-air, online, and in our communities—reach 98 percent of the American people with commercial-free, high-quality programming that educates, informs, entertains and inspires.

Funding from CPB has made possible iconic arts and cultural programs and series such as *The Vietnam War*, *A Capitol Fourth*, *Finding Your Roots with Henry Louis Gates, Jr.*, *Masterpiece*, *NOVA*, and *The Mark Twain Prize for American Humor*.

CPB is proud to provide major support for this celebration of the enduring contributions of Garth Brooks to our nation's musical heritage.

**- Patricia S. Harrison, President and CEO**

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Corporation  
for Public  
Broadcasting

## AARP applauds Garth Brooks, recipient of the 2020 Gershwin Prize for Popular Song

Your songs cross genres and generations, melodically weaving hopes, dreams and inspiration into the fabric of our lives. Through the universal language of your music, you inspire us to reach for our real possibilities and not be afraid to Rope the Wind.



**AARP**® Real  
Possibilities





# Congratulations, Garth Brooks.

*Proud to sponsor the 2020 Library of Congress  
Gershwin Prize.*

fly the friendly skies®

CONGRATULATIONS AND GRATITUDE TO  
THE 2020 GERSHWIN PRIZE HONOREE

# GARTH BROOKS

FOR CAPTURING THE HEARTS OF  
MUSIC LOVERS EVERYWHERE AND  
TO CARLA HAYDEN FOR HER  
EXEMPLARY STEWARDSHIP OF  
THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS.

BUFFY CAFRITZ  
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
JAMES MADISON COUNCIL MEMBER



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 7-TIME  
CMA AWARDS ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR  
**GARTH BROOKS**  
ON THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS  
GERSHWIN PRIZE

FROM YOUR  
FRIENDS AT **CMA**  
COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION

Congratulations to honoree  
Garth Brooks  
on receiving the  
2020 Library of Congress  
Gershwin Prize  
for Popular Song

From your friends at The Hay-Adams

Photo: Joseph Llanes/Country Music Association, Inc.  
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**GARTH,**  
**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**ON THIS EXTRAORDINARY HONOR,**  
**AND THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART**  
**OF OUR MUSICAL FAMILY.**

 **ascap** WE CREATE MUSIC



*Garth Brooks: The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song is being taped by WETA, the flagship public broadcasting station in the nation's capital, for national television broadcast on PBS.*

These music specials embody public broadcasting's tradition of sharing with the American public the best of the performing arts, featuring musicians from diverse genres of American music, including pop, country, rock, jazz and blues.

*Garth Brooks: The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song* will premiere **Sunday, March 29, 2020, at 9 p.m. ET** on PBS stations nationwide (check local listings). Additionally, the program will be broadcast at a later date via the American Forces Network to American service men and women and civilians at U.S. Department of Defense locations around the world.

Since 2007, WETA has produced *The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song* with the support of PBS and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Spanning from

June 2007 to the most recent broadcast in May 2019, these events have honored the musical genius of Paul Simon, Stevie Wonder, Sir Paul McCartney, Burt Bacharach, Hal David, Carole King, Billy Joel, Willie Nelson, Smokey Robinson, Tony Bennett, and Emilio and Gloria Estefan. The talented line-ups celebrating the honorees have included Marc Anthony, Boyz II Men, Edie Brickell, Leon Bridges, Michael Bublé, Elvis Costello, Ana Gabriel, CeeLo Green, Faith Hill, the Jonas Brothers, Diana Krall, Lyle Lovett, Martina McBride, John Mellencamp, Corinne Bailey Rae, LeAnn Rimes, Jerry Seinfeld, Esperanza Spalding, James Taylor, Jack White, Will.i.am, Vanessa Williams, Bruce Willis, Neil Young, and Buckwheat Zydeco.

*Garth Brooks: The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song* is a co-production of WETA Washington, D.C.; Bounce, a division of Concord Music Group; and the Library of Congress. The executive producers are Carla Hayden and Michael Strunsky. The producers for the Library of Congress are Susan H. Vita and Jarrod MacNeil. The production producer is Bounce's Tim Swift, and the producer for WETA is John Wilson.

The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song is made possible through the generous support of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, PBS, and public television viewers. Additional funding for this program is provided by The Leonore S. Gershwin Trust for the benefit of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board, Michael Strunsky, Trustee; The Ira and Leonore Gershwin Fund; and AARP, The Buffy and William Cafritz Foundation, Thomas V. Girardi and Marjorie Fisher Furman. Air transportation is provided by United Airlines.

Broadcast: Sunday, March 29, 2020, at 9 p.m. ET on PBS

PBS

PBS, with nearly 350 member stations, offers all Americans the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television and digital content. Each month, PBS reaches nearly 100 million people through television and nearly 28 million people online, inviting them to experience the worlds of science, history, nature and public affairs; to hear diverse viewpoints; and to take front row seats to world-class drama and performances. PBS' broad array of programs has been consistently honored by the industry's most coveted award competitions. Teachers of children from pre-K through 12th grade turn to PBS for digital content and services that help bring classroom lessons to life. Decades of research confirms that PBS' premier children's media service, PBS KIDS, helps children build critical literacy, math and social-emotional skills, enabling them to find success in school and life. Delivered through member stations, PBS KIDS offers high-quality educational content on TV – including a new 24/7 channel, online at [pbskids.org](https://pbskids.org), via an array of mobile apps and in communities across America. More information about PBS is available at [pbs.org](https://pbs.org), one of the leading dot-org websites on the internet, or by following PBS on Twitter, Facebook or through our apps for mobile and connected devices. Specific program information and updates for press are available at [pbs.org/pressroom](https://pbs.org/pressroom) or by following [@PBSPressRoom](https://twitter.com/PBSPressRoom) on Twitter.

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB), a private, nonprofit corporation created by Congress in 1967, is the steward of the federal government's investment in

public broadcasting. It helps support the operations of nearly 1,500 locally owned and operated public television and radio stations nationwide. CPB is also the largest single source of funding for research, technology, and program development for public radio, television and related online services. More information about CPB is available at [cpb.org](https://cpb.org).

WETA Washington, D.C.

WETA Washington, D.C., is one of the largest producing stations of new content for public television in the United States. Other WETA productions and co-productions include *PBS NewsHour*, *Washington Week*, The Kennedy Center Mark Twain Prize and documentaries by filmmaker Ken Burns and scholar Henry Louis Gates, Jr. Sharon Percy Rockefeller is president and CEO. More information on WETA and its programs and services is available at [weta.org](https://weta.org).

Bounce

Bounce is an award-winning broadcast production division of Concord Music Group. In addition to this year's production of *The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song*, and previous years' specials honoring Billy Joel, Willie Nelson, Smokey Robinson, Tony Bennett, and Emilio and Gloria Estefan, Bounce has produced one-of-a-kind live events including the annual "MusiCares Person of the Year" special during GRAMMY Week, "The National Christmas Tree Lighting" and several episodes of the acclaimed PBS series *In Performance at the White House*. The Bounce team also specializes in brand integration and marketing – working with high-end luxury firms on launching and maintaining their overall brand status. Tim Swift is founder and CEO.

For more information about *Garth Brooks: The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song*, visit:



The Leonore S. Gershwin Trust for the benefit of the Library of Congress Trust Fund Board, Michael Strunsky, Trustee • The Ira and Leonore Gershwin Fund  
The Buffy and William Cafritz Foundation • Thomas V. Girardi • Marjorie Fisher Furman



On March 20, 2019, the National Recording Registry announced its 2018 class of 25 additions, which range from groundbreaking music by Ritchie Valens and Nina Simone to a musical theater number and a hip-hop album.

Recordings added to the collection are chosen for being “aural treasures worthy of preservation because of their cultural, historic and aesthetic importance to the nation’s recorded sound heritage,” U.S. Librarian of Congress Carla Hayden stated in the press release. Such treasures include the 1968 original Broadway recording of “Hair,” the song from the musical of the same name,

Earth, Wind & Fire’s 1978 single “September,” and Neil Diamond’s classic 1969 single “Sweet Caroline.”

The recordings must be at least a decade old; the most recent addition is Jay-Z’s 2001 album *The Blueprint*. Non-musical recordings are also eligible; this year the speech by former U.S. Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy following the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is also included, bringing the registry to a total of 525 recordings.

## ADDED IN 2019

**Yiddish Cylanders** from the Standard Phonograph Company of New York and the Thomas Lambert Company (c. 1901–1905)

**“Memphis Blues”** (single), Victor Military Band (1914)

**Melville Jacobs Collection** of Native Americans of the American Northwest (1929–1939)

**“Minnie the Moocher”** (single), Cab Calloway (1931)

**Bach Six Cello Suites** (album), Pablo Casals (c. 1939)

**“They Look Like Men of War”** (single), Deep River Boys (1941)

**“Gunsmoke” – Episode: “The Cabin”** (Dec. 27, 1952)

**Ruth Draper: Complete recorded monologues** (1954–1956)

**“La Bamba”** (single), Ritchie Valens (1958)

**“Long Black Veil”** (single), Lefty Frizzell (1959)

**Stan Freberg Presents the United States of America, Vol. 1: The Early Years** (album), Stan Freberg (1961)

**GO** (album), Dexter Gordon (1962)

**War Requiem** (album), Benjamin Britten (1963)

**“Mississippi Goddam”** (single), Nina Simone (1964)

**“Soul Man”** (single), Sam & Dave (1967)

**“Hair”** (original Broadway cast recording) (1968)

**Speech on the Death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.**, Robert F. Kennedy (April 4, 1968)

**“Sweet Caroline”** (single), Neil Diamond (1969)

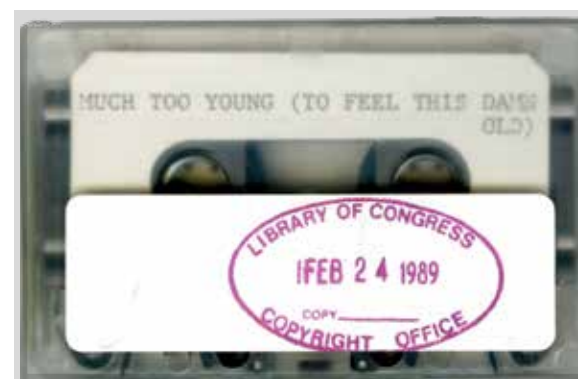
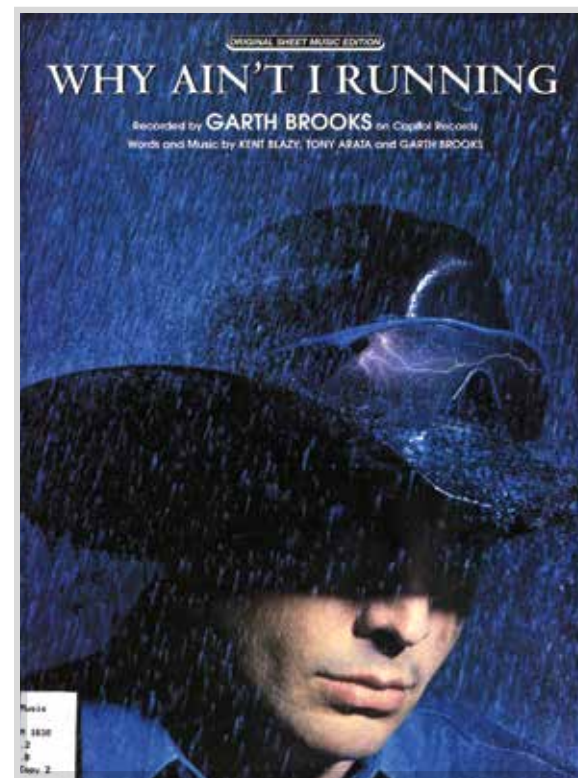
**Superfly** (album), Curtis Mayfield (1972)

**Ola Belle Reed** (album), Ola Belle Reed (1973)

**“September”** (single), Earth, Wind & Fire (1978)

**“You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real)”** (single), Sylvester (1978)

**She’s So Unusual** (album), Cyndi Lauper (1983)



The Library of Congress is home to the United States Copyright Office. The Copyright Office promotes creativity by administering and sustaining an effective national copyright system, most importantly for the registration of original works of authorship.

Works by American authors—including books, music, maps, motion pictures, periodicals, prints and photographs—are collected by the Library under provisions of the copyright law.

Some musical works are registered first in unpublished form (often in the composer’s own hand), and then in published form.



# MISSION

Engage, inspire, and inform Congress and the American people with a universal and enduring source of knowledge and creativity.

# VISION

All Americans are connected to the Library of Congress.



The Library was founded in 1800, making it the first federal cultural institution in the nation.



The Library serves as the research arm of the U.S. Congress and is recognized as the national library of the United States.

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**manuscripts**



**5.6m**  
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**17.4m**  
**microforms**



**1.8m**  
**moving images**



**8.1m**  
**sheet music**



**2m**  
**other**  
*including machine-readable items*



**15.6m**  
**visual materials**

**14.8m**  
**photographs**

**1.4m** other  
*broadside, photocopies, non-pictorial material, etc.*

**109.8k** posters

**685.9k** prints and drawings



**LOC digital collections:**

**9m** items



**18b**  
objects in the Library's web archive





## ABOUT THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The collections of the Library of Congress comprise the most comprehensive accumulation of human expression ever assembled, totaling more than **168 million items**.

True to the Jeffersonian ideal, they are broad in scope, including research materials in more than 470 languages and 35 scripts—vast collections of books, manuscripts, maps, sound recordings, films, newspapers, prints and photographs.

These priceless collections are housed in three buildings on Capitol Hill, the oldest being the magnificent shrine to knowledge, the Thomas Jefferson Building, opened in 1897. Other facilities include the High Density Storage Facility in Fort Meade, Maryland and the Packard Campus for Audio Visual Conservation in Culpeper, Virginia.

Collection materials are being digitized every day and made available on the Library's website. Everyone can view online Thomas Jefferson's draft of the Declaration of Independence; Revolutionary War maps; the papers of Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Alexander Graham Bell, Margaret Mead and Rosa Parks; historic baseball cards; Civil War photographs; the first Thomas Edison films and sound recordings; American newspapers from 1789 to 1943; and millions more documents of American history, and increasingly, world history.

The music collections in the Library of Congress encompass virtually all musical genres – classical, jazz, folk, gospel, blues, rock, country and hip-hop.

Original manuscripts of European masters such as Bach, Mozart, Beethoven and Brahms sit on shelves next to those of American masters such as Irving Berlin, Aaron Copland and Leonard Bernstein. The Music Division is home to the largest sheet music collection in the world, dating from the earliest publishers in Europe and America to the present day. Studies of popular music are bolstered by the Library's vast collections of traditional music in the American Folklife Center, including the repertoires of early blues men such as Robert Johnson and Muddy Waters and field recordings of diverse American folk music traditions.

To learn more about the Library's collections, programs and services, visit [loc.gov](https://www.loc.gov) and connect on Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Pinterest, YouTube, iTunesU and Flickr.

MARCH – JUNE 2020

**LIVE!** AT THE LIBRARY  
EVERY THURSDAY EVENING



### March 12 National Book Festival Presents Margaret Atwood & Nan Talese

A continuation of the Library's one-day National Book Festival, National Book Festival Presents extends the excitement of the festival to the Library's Captiol Hill campus year-round. On March 12, legendary fiction editor and publisher Nan Talese is joined by one of her most successful novelists, Margaret Atwood, to discuss their work together. This is the kickoff of a new National Book Festival Presents feature, called Great American Editors, which explores the vital role of editors in the writing and publishing process. Moderated by Library of Congress Literary Director Marie Arana.

📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 7:00pm - 8:30pm  
🎟 Tickets available via Eventbrite

### March 19 National Book Festival Presents Jeffrey Rosen

National Book Festival Presents noted academic and legal commentator Jeffrey Rosen in a discussion of his new book, *Conversations with RBG: Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Life, Love, Liberty and Law*, with Dahlia Lithwick, a senior editor at Slate. Join us for this Women's History Month event to gain a deeper understanding of one of the United States' most "notorious" Supreme Court Justices. This event is co-sponsored by the Law Library of Congress.

📍 LJ-119 🕒 7:00pm - 8:00pm  
🎟 Tickets available via Eventbrite



### April 02 National Book Festival Presents Richard Ford

If you love fiction, then you won't want to miss this fascinating conversation with Library of Congress Prize for American Fiction winner Richard Ford. In the program "A Good Story Knows No Borders," Ford will provide his unique insights into the universality of fiction and join in a conversation with his translator to German, Frank Heibert. The discussion will be moderated by Library of Congress Literary Director Marie Arana.

📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 7:00pm - 8:30pm  
🎟 Tickets available via Eventbrite

### April 23 Shakespeare's Birthday Lecture

Happy Birthday, Mr. Shakespeare! The Folger Shakespeare Library and the Library of Congress' Rare Book & Special Collections Division will jointly sponsor this annual lecture in observance of the Bard's birthday. Ian Smith of Lafayette College will offer a provocative discussion on "Reading While White: A Critique of Shakespearean Interpretation." Building on Toni Morrison's critical insight that American readers are "positioned as white," Dr. Smith explores the implications of reading and race for the Shakespeare industry. A reception with refreshments will follow.

📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 7:00pm - 8:30pm  
No tickets required



# LIVE! AT THE LIBRARY

EVERY THURSDAY EVENING

## April 30 National Book Festival Presents Joy Harjo

The 23rd United States Poet Laureate, Joy Harjo, will return to the Library for an historic spring event, featuring a program and a special musical performance. This exciting event is co-sponsored by the Library's American Folklife Center and Music Division.

📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 7:00pm - 8:00pm  
Great Hall 🕒 8:00pm - 9:00pm  
🎟 Tickets available via Eventbrite



Shawn Miller

## May 14 Live! at the Library: Celebrating the 19th Amendment

# SHALL NOT BE DENIED

WOMEN FIGHT FOR THE VOTE



## TOUR

Tour the Library's exhibit that tells the story of the 72-year campaign for women's suffrage. Considered the largest reform movement in American history, its participants believed that securing the vote was essential to achieving women's economic, social, and political equality. Their collective story is one of courage, perseverance, savvy, creativity, and hope that continues to inspire activists today.

📍 Thomas Jefferson Building, Great Hall Floor 2  
Exhibit open to the public  
🕒 5:00pm - 8:00pm

## ENGAGE

### Diverse Voices in the Suffrage Movement

Join us for a panel discussion about journalists and suffragists Miriam Michelson, Luisa Capetillo, and Ida B. Wells, who advocated for equal rights in print.

📍 Thomas Jefferson Building, LJ-119  
🕒 5:00pm - 6:15pm  
No tickets required

## BE INSPIRED

### Keynote address: A Century of Votes for Women

Christina Wolbrecht, Professor of Political Science at the University of Notre Dame, will discuss her book, *A Century of Votes for Women: American Elections Since Suffrage*.

📍 Thomas Jefferson Building, LJ-119  
🕒 6:30pm - 7:30pm  
No tickets required

## May 21 Castor and Patience: A Performance and Panel Discussion

22nd United States Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith and composer Gregory Spears, creators of the new opera *Castor and Patience*, will present a sneak-peak concert of selected excerpts of the opera, which will premiere at the Cincinnati Opera this July. Smith and Spears will also discuss their creation process during the program and field audience questions.

📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
🎟 Tickets available via Eventbrite

## May 28 Big Band Evening: Strayhorn Known and Unknown

The Library's Salute to Strayhorn concert celebrates the music and legacy of an original American voice, and the addition of his papers to the Library's major holdings in jazz. Loren Schoenberg, Senior Scholar at The National Jazz Museum in Harlem, has delved into the Library's archives to program a wonderful big-band evening that will bring to life both great Strayhorn classics and a few sparkling gems heard for the first time. This program is presented through the generous support of The Revada Foundation of the Logan Family.

📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 7:00pm - 8:30pm  
🎟 Tickets available via Eventbrite

## June 04 American Folklife Center Homegrown Concert Series: Takht Al-Nagham

Join us for an evening of traditional Syrian music! The American Folklife Center will host New York-based ensemble, Takht Al-Nagham, as part of its 2020 Homegrown concert series. Led by Samer Ali, the ensemble will present a suite drawing on the Nikriz Maqam in order to expand an effort begun by famed Syrian singer,

## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Sabah Fakhri, in the 1970s. Takht Al-Nagham's performance will honor and complement Sabah Fakhri's work, while providing our audience a not-to-be missed evening of exquisite traditional musical performance.

📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 7:30pm - 9:00pm  
🎟 Tickets available via Eventbrite

## June 11 National Book Festival Presents Al Roker

National Book Festival Presents America's favorite weatherman, *Today Show* co-anchor, and Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade host Al Roker for a funny and shrewd look at his career so far, what he's learned, and what's yet to come. Roker will be in conversation about his humorous collection of essays *You Look So Much Better in Person: True Stories of Absurdity and Success* based on lessons for living a happy life and achieving success through the power of saying "yes!"

📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 7:00pm - 8:30pm  
🎟 Tickets available via Eventbrite

## June 25 National Book Festival Presents Ha Jin

National Book Festival Presents Chinese-American poet and novelist Ha Jin, on his new biography of the legendary Chinese poet Li Bai. Please join us for this unique opportunity to see Ha Jin in two venues at the Library: first, a presentation in Mandarin Chinese in the Library's Whittall Pavilion, and second, an in-depth discussion in English of Ha Jin's current book and his life's work in the Coolidge Auditorium. This event is co-sponsored by the Library's Asian Division.

📍 Whittall Pavilion 🕒 5:00pm - 6:00pm  
📍 Coolidge Auditorium 🕒 7:00pm - 8:30pm  
🎟 Tickets for both programs available via Eventbrite



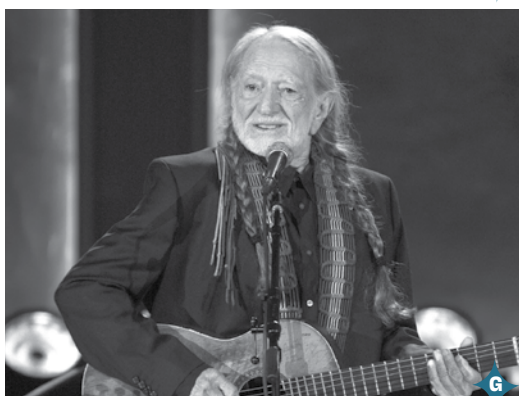
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## LIBRARY OF CONGRESS GERSHWIN PRIZE PAST RECIPIENTS



**A** Paul Simon (2007)  
Credit: Scott Suchman

**B** Stevie Wonder (2009)  
Credit: Abby Brack Lewis

**C** Paul McCartney (2010)  
Credit: Abby Brack Lewis

**D** Burt Bacharach and Hal David (2012)  
Credit: Charlie Gillett Collection

**E** Carole King (2013)  
Credit: Abby Brack Lewis

**F** Billy Joel (2014)  
Credit: John Harrington

**G** Willie Nelson (2015)  
Credit: John Harrington

**H** Smokey Robinson (2016)  
Credit: John Harrington

**I** Tony Bennett (2017)  
Credit: Shawn Miller

**J** Emilio and Gloria Estefan (2019)  
Credit: Courtesy of Emilio and Gloria Estefan

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Carla Hayden, Librarian of Congress  
Mark Sweeney, Principal Deputy Librarian

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Line Producer

Neal Kendall  
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Jerry Foley  
Director

Matt Russell  
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Matt Firestone  
Lighting Designer

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Co-Producer

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Associate Producer

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Dave Gant  
Keyboards

Mike Palmer  
Drums  
Percussion

Mark Greenwood  
Bass Guitar  
Vocals

Jimmy Mattingly  
Acoustic Guitar  
Electric Guitar  
Fiddle

Ty England  
Acoustic Guitar  
Vocals

Steve McClure  
Steel Guitar  
Electric Guitar

Gordon Kennedy  
Electric Guitar

Blair Masters  
Keyboards  
Accordion

Bruce Bouton  
Steel Guitar  
Lap Steel Guitar

Chris Leuzinger  
Electric Guitar

Vicki Hampton  
Background Vocals

Robert Bailey  
Background Vocals

**SPECIAL THANKS**

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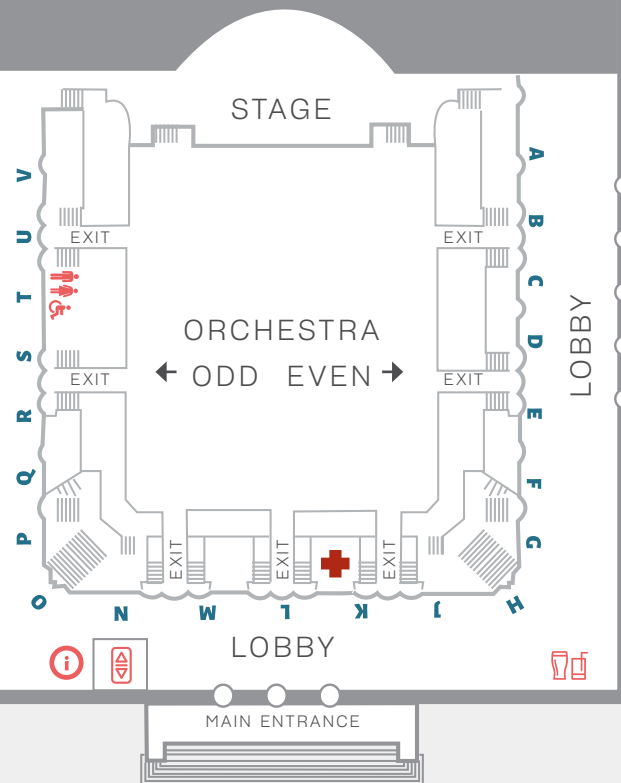
The Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song was created by Dr. James H. Billington, Bob Kaminsky, Peter Kaminsky, Mark Krantz and Cappy McGarr.



D STREET

D STREET ENTRANCE

LOBBY



LOBBY

C STREET ENTRANCE

C STREET

18TH STREET

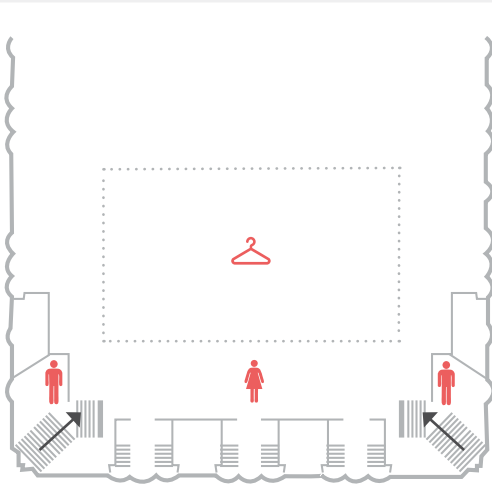
MAIN ENTRANCE

## KEY

- Guest info
- Elevator
- Concessions
- Coat Check
- ADA Restrooms
- Restrooms
- First Aid

D STREET ENTRANCE

LOBBY



LOBBY

C STREET ENTRANCE

MAIN ENTRANCE

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@librarycongress #GershwinPrize

Watch the show honoring the 2020 honoree Garth Brooks on March 29.

<http://www.pbs.org/gershwin-prize>